The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Whether any Member of this House is entitled to ask for any particular information from the Government is to be settled by the President and not by the Member of Government, and I hope the hon. Minister will kindly withdraw his statement."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"I am only stating, Mr. President . . . (Cries of 'withdraw', 'obey the Chair', from the Opposition benches)."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"Order, order. I have already requested the hon. Minister to withdraw the statement made by him."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"I withdraw the statement, if the hon. the President thinks that I refused to give information. What I wanted to say was that it is confidential and therefore cannot be divulged."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Minister could have said that."

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—"I meant that, Mr. President."

Itinerant work by rural medical practitioners.

* 83 *Q.*—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA : Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that recently the Surgeon-General has issued a circular to the effect that the rural medical practitioners appointed under the scheme of rural medical relief should do itinerant work by visiting the various villages once a week ;

(*b*) what the status of a rural medical practitioner under the scheme is ; and

(*c*) whether to enable the rural medical practitioner to do itinerant work in the villages, the Government are prepared to grant him conveyance charges, provide a suitable building in the village to be visited and allow him a servant ?

A.—(*a*) Yes ; but the application of the circular to rural medical practitioners has since been rescinded.

(*b*) He is a private practitioner receiving a subsidy from Government.

(*c*) The question does not arise.

Education

Free education for Adi-Dravidas in secondary schools.

* 84 *Q.*—Mr. A. B. SHETTY : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government propose to give free education for the Adi-Dravidas in secondary schools ; and

(*b*) whether any form of vocational training is given in any of the Labour schools now existing ?

A.—(*a*) There is no proposal under the consideration of Government for the wholesale remission of fees for all Adi-Dravida pupils in secondary schools.

(*b*) The hon. Member is referred to the annual administration reports of the Labour Department which are placed on the Editors' Table.

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Mr. V. GANGADHARA SIVA :—" Will the Government consider any proposal for giving free education for Adi-Dravidas in secondary schools? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The question of giving free education in secondary schools is, as I have often said, a matter of finance, and in the present state of our finance, the task will be almost superhuman."

Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED :—" May I know, in view of the very liberal grant which the Government are proposing to give to the Sir Annamalai University, whether it is really impracticable to remit fees for Adi-Dravida students who attend secondary schools? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The question is argumentative."

Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED :—" May I know whether the Government will at least consider the necessity of remitting fees for the Adi-Dravida pupils? "

The hon. Dr. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" The Government are giving through the Labour department as much facility as could be given at present for the higher education of Adi-Dravida pupils."

Mr. BASHEER AHMAD SAYEED :—" Will they not make it a rule that Adi-Dravida pupils may be admitted free of any fees in all the schools? "

The hon. P. SUBBARAYAN :—" As I said before, Sir, that will be an impossible task."

Introduction of agriculture in the training course for secondary-grade teachers.

* 85 Q.—The ZAMINDAR OF GOLLAPALLI : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether the Government will be pleased to consider the proposal of certain agencies to introduce agricultural training in the training course provided for the teachers of the secondary grade?

A.—The Government do not consider that the introduction of agricultural training in all secondary training schools is either necessary or practicable.

Local Boards

Construction of the Srisailam road.

86 Q.—Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(a) Whether the correspondence between the Government and the President, District Board, Kurnool, regarding the Srisailam road has reached such a stage as to allow the project to be taken up;

(b) if so, whether he will be pleased to state when the construction of the road is expected to begin; and

(c) if not, whether he will kindly state what has so far taken place?

A.—(a) No.

(b) & (c) The proposal is still under correspondence.